

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are in the application.

Claims 1-20 are amended, without prejudice or disclaimer.

The specification is objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(d)(1) as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for claimed subject matter. Applicants have amended the specification to recite the elements of claim 1, as a new paragraph after paragraph 14.

The computer code has been cancelled from the specification and placed in a computer program code appendix.

Paragraph 26 has been amended to specifically recite the data entry unit set forth in claim 1.

No new matter has been inserted in the specification.

Applicants provide herewith proposed corrections to the Figures, including replacement Figs. 1-6, substituting for Figs. 10, 25, 20, 25, 30, and 40 of the application as filed. In addition to correction of the Figure numbering, reference numerals were corrected to avoid ambiguity. Corresponding changes are made to the specification, as well as insertion of reference numerals and technical corrections where appropriate.

Claims 1-7, 9-16 and 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Aronzo. Without acceding to the propriety of the rejection, applicants have amended claims 1 and 11 to make clear the distinctions of the present invention from the applied reference.

Claim 1 now recites that the input parameters that describe at least one non-linear function as one of a plurality of distinct mathematical positive, monotonic functions. Aronzo is not believed to disclose any non-linear functions.

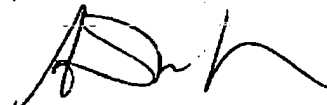
Claim 11 is amended to recite that one of the input parameters is a question difficulty, which is then used as a parameter for defining the function to be evaluated, which is neither taught nor suggested by the references.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that the application is now allowable, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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